

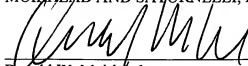
REMARKS

This paper is being provided in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated November 5, 2008, and provides herewith a Preliminary Amendment having a compliant listing of amended claims that replaces (and reflects) the amended claim listing included in the preliminary amendment filed January 24, 2005, which was determined to be non-compliant. In this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-16 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof and added new claims 17-32 to clarify that which Applicants consider to be the presently-claimed invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the claims contained herein reflect amendments made during prosecution of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/02756 filed March 4, 2004 (of which the present application is a 371 U.S. national stage application) and submit that the amendments to the claims are fully supported by the originally-filed specification.

Although we believe that we have appropriately provided for any fees due in connection with this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any deficiencies to/from our **Deposit Account No. 503596**.

Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 508-898-8603.

Respectfully submitted,
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